

Dave Davis
President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincoln Square
New York, NY 10023

RETURN *LIKE IT IS* TO ITS ORIGINAL 1 HOUR FORMAT!

As a regular viewer and strong supporter of "Like It Is" I am outraged at the decision of WABC-TV to cut the format of this esteemed public service/news show to ½ hour, in order to expand the time allotted for sports and entertainment. How insulting!

"Like It Is," with its award winning host and producer Gil Noble, has served the American public for the past 34 years with timely and critical analysis of the political, economic and cultural issues that shape our lives. Serving the mandate of the Kerner Commission, which called upon the media to provide greater representation of people of color and the various issues and viewpoints that make up this country's ethnic diversity, "Like It Is" has offered a unique and most needed opportunity for people to examine current affairs through an African American perspective. To date it is the longest running African American produced television program in the US and has produced the largest body of programs and documentaries on Black Americans.

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Again, I call upon you to return "Like It Is" to its original hour format. I am very aware that Disney owns ABC. While I will always support this program, if this reasonable request is not granted, I will find other ways to express my displeasure via my network viewing habits and my purchasing power. And I will encourage others to do the same. There are many ways in which my community can register its displeasure pertaining to your insensitivity to the audience that "Like It Is" serves.


Signature

985 Woodlond Ave.
Address

Plainfield, NJ 07060

Dec. 22, 2004
Date

Mr. Dave Davis
President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincoln Square
New York, New York 10023

**IMMEDIATELY RETURN LIKE IT IS TO ITS ORIGINAL HOUR FORMAT IN TIME FOR
BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

As a regular viewer and strong supporter of "Like It Is", I am outraged at the decision of WABC-TV to cut the format of this highly esteemed public service/news program to a half hour show in order to insert "Inside Stuff", a quasi sports, entertainment and sometimes situation comedy offering, in the space originally allotted for WABC-TV's lone Black public affairs program. I find the decision an insult to our community, offensive to our intelligence, and humiliating to the program's producer.

"Like It Is", with its multiple award winning producer and host Gil Noble, has served its viewers for over the last 34 years with timely and critical analysis of the political, economic and cultural issues that shape our lives and brings pride and self-esteem to our community. I find the decision to reduce the program is an attempt to diminish its capacity and continuity to provide thorough information within an hour, without having to resort to a new week-to-week serial context. The historic Kerner Commission called upon the media to provide greater representation of people of color in general and the Black community in particular by airing various issues and viewpoints that make up this country's ethnic diversity, "Like It Is" has offered a unique and most needed opportunity for people to examine current affairs through an authentic African-American perspective. To date it is the longest running African-American produced television program in the U.S. (which previously had given both WABC-TV and the ABC Network considerable praise in the Black community) that has produced the largest body of programs and documentaries in this country on the African experience in the U.S., Caribbean and even Africa itself.

Today, many of the gains that people of African ancestry have made in media during the past three decades are being systematically reversed. Racial diversity in media ownership and representation in the newsrooms is in decline. The fact that "Like It Is" is one of the only regularly scheduled Black programs produced at WABC-TV out of 168 hours of airtime a week, coupled with your station's decision to first try to eliminate the program and then in lieu of that slash the time format, reflects a dangerous, frightening and disturbing trend.

Again, I call upon you to return "Like It Is" to its original hour format. We are very much aware that Disney, an entertainment conglomerate, owns ABC and its news and public affairs department. While I will always support "Like It Is" and Gil Noble, I feel that if these reasonable requests are not granted, I will be forced to find other ways to express my displeasure via my network viewing habits and my purchasing power. I will encourage others to do the same. There are many ways in which my community can register its displeasure pertaining to what we feel is your insensitivity to the audience that "Like It Is" serves. And as Black History Month is fast approaching, and as "Like It Is" always does special programming to honor this month, it is even more urgent that you return the show to its original hour immediately. If this show is not returned to its one hour format in time for Black History month, I will without hesitation use the options mentioned above.

Print and Sign MASAI EHEHOSI

Masai Ekehosi

Address 208 Bidwell Ave

JERSEY CITY, NJ 07305

cc: Anne M. Sweeney, Co-Chair Disney Media Networks; David Stern, Commissioner of the NBA

Mr. Dave Davis
President and General Manager
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Print and Sign Mr. Tracy King Mr. Tracy King
Address 468 Paulison Ave.
Passaic, NJ 07055

cc: Anne M. Sweeney, Co-Chair Disney Media Networks; David Stern, Commissioner of the NBA

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Carol A. Craig
Signature
300 Central Ave.
Address
Plfd., NJ
12-21-04
Date

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Marion Wiley
Signature

New Jersey
Address

12-21-04
Date

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Signature

N/A

Address

PLS WSO 7020

Date

12/2/04

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Gurzel Jones

Signature

Address

971 Madison Ave 7 FD 07060

Date

21/12/04

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Ellen McDougald
Signature

Address
520 E. Front St. apt. 12H PLFD, N.J.
12-21-04

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Helma S. Ellis

Signature

Address

520 E. FRONT ST. apt 12-I

PLAINFIELD, N. J. 07060

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Shirley Crawford
Signature

Address

146 Johnston Ave Pleasant, N.J.

Date

12/21/004

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President and General Manager
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7 Lincoln Square
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Alyce Roberts
Signature
601 W. 7th St.
Address
Plainfield, N.J.
12:2104
Date

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Helen C. Rodriguez
Signature

18 Raymond Avenue
Address

Plainfield, N.J. 07062

12/21/04
Date

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Annie B. Hatchel
Signature
129 Berckman Street
Address
Plainfield, N.J. 07062
12-21-04
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Signature

Address

Date

Reggie Ham
248 Johnston Ave
Plainfield, NJ 07062
12/21/04

Dave Davis
President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincoln Square
New York, NY 10023

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Charles Nelson

Signature

937 LEWIS AVE

Address

PLAINFIELD, NJ 07063

12/22/04

Date

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President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincoln Square
New York, NY 10023

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Julius C. Perry
Signature
PLAINFIELD SENIOR CENTER
Address
305 E. ADAM ST.
PLAINFIELD, N.J. 07062
Date
12/21/04

Dave Davis
President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincoln Square
New York, NY 10023

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Dorothy Calver
Signature

1465 Mung St
Address

Plainfield NJ 07062

12/22/04
Date

Dave Davis
President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincoln Square
New York, NY 10023

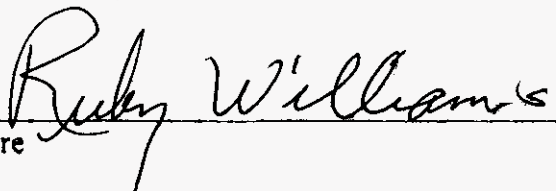
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Signature

Address
601 W. 7th St. Apt. 4B
Dec. 22, 2004
Date

Dave Davis
President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincoln Square
New York, NY 10023

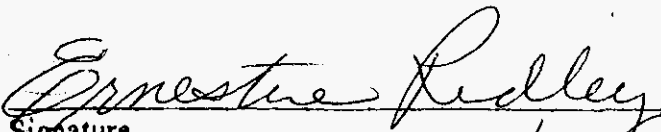
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Signature
820 East Front St. Apt 2C
Address
Plainfield NJ 07060
12/21/04
Date

Dave Davis
President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincoln Square
New York, NY 10023

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Jay Fennell
Signature

Address 1118 ST MARKS PL PLAINFIELD NJ,

12-22-04
Date

Dave Davis
President and General Manager
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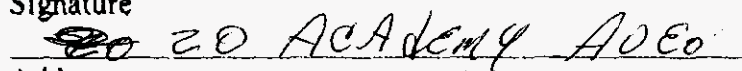
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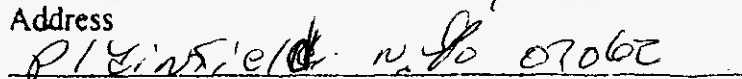
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Martina E. Fowler
Signature
20 Academy Ave.
Address
Plainfield, N. J. 07062
12-22-04
Date

Dave Davis
President and General Manager
WABC-TV
7 Lincoln Square
New York, NY 10023

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Malcolm Wilson
Signature
318 Bergen Street
Address
Plainfield, N.J. 07063
Dec. 22, 2004
Date